



Building on and continuing positive outdoor experiences for Children at Seaview Respite Unit

1. Name and registered charities details?

Friends of Seaview
SC043770

2. Explanation of what charity does?

Friends of Seaview charity was set up in 2013 to support the work of Seaveiw respite unit who offer respite and outreach services to over 70 children with severe and complex disabilities. The unit is based in Bingham and the charity has successfully received funding to create a beautiful garden to use as a therapeutic space for the children which is a relaxing, enjoyable and accessible space for them and staff to use out with the unit which can sometimes be a high pressure and emotive environment. The charity employs a therapeutic gardener who plans and runs weekly therapeutic gardening sessions with the children and also runs weekly volunteer sessions to keep the garden maintained and interesting and grow produce for the unit's kitchen which the chef can use for the children's and staff's meals. The garden is an important place for the children as many of them don't have garden's at home and due to the children's disabilities and sometimes challenging behaviors they would not be able to access local park areas. The charity also organises open days where the garden is open to members of the public in order to raise funds and awareness and also engage with the local community.

3. What would the money be used for?

The charity relies on funding for it's continuing success. With this money we can buy vital resources for the garden and to continue to improve the quality of life for our children. We are always looking for ways to enhance the children's experiences and keep them interested and engaged with the garden. This money would be used for vital gardening equipment such as bulbs, seeds, compost and tools and also for educational materials such as books and posters, bird houses and tables as well as craft supplies. All of which will be used during sessions with the therapeutic gardener, these sessions are tailored to the children's abilities and are mostly seasonal such as creating fat balls for birds or planting bulbs. These supplies will also be used for producing fruit and veg for the staff and children's meals which increases the children's sense of purpose whilst also is an important lesson in where food comes from and encourages healthier eating habits. We would also like to buy some outdoor sensory equipment for the garden such as permanent musical features and colourful lighting and enriching the whole garden experience so the children will be drawn to the outdoors which we know has positive effects on wellbeing and behaviour.